

REMARKS**Summary of the Office Action**

Claim 14 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,992,026.

Claim 18 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,992,026.

Claim 26 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 3 of U.S. Patent No. 6,992,026.

Claim 29 is rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,992,026.

Response to the Office Action

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections. Applicants herein submit the attached Terminal Disclaimer demonstrating common ownership of the present application and U.S. Patent No. 6,992,026 to facilitate allowance of the present application, thereby obviating the double patenting rejection. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 14, 18, 26 and 29 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting be withdrawn, and the claims allowed.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request reconsideration and timely allowance of the pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution. A favorable action is awaited.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0573. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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